

Eco-Community Dialogues Newsletter

Nancy Nelson, Editor

Vol. 13 No. 2

Friday, August 29, 2014

The Conservation Pledge

I pledge to protect and preserve the natural resources of the planet Earth, and promise to promote education so we may become caretakers of our air, water, land, forest, and wildlife.

Schoolchildren in Oregon

Analysis has found over 1,000 school buildings in OREGON are high risk for collapsing in a major earthquake that scientists warn of, and the state bears the responsibility. But lawmakers have only allocated \$34 million for an existing seismic retrofit program. \$250 million is needed so that \$1.5 million in funding can be granted per school.

OREGON's Senate President, *Peter Courtney*, has called for \$200 million to be allocated because the future of the children is the future of the country.

(Source: August 20, 2014, MAIL TRIBUNE, "Around Oregon, Senate Pres calls for \$200 M quake spending" SALEM)

The Longest Lasting Pollution

How much do you comprehend that the by-product of nuclear fission is nuclear waste. Maybe you haven't yet understood that nuclear waste is the longest-lasting pollution of the Planet. The *half-life* of producing isotope *Iodine-129* by fission of *Plutonium* and *Uranium* in reactors is 15.7 MILLION YEARS before it loses enough radioactivity level. Some people are irresponsible to call nuclear energy "clean" or "green". It is *neither*.

Queen Elizabeth II is responsible for the nuclear power can-of-worms that was initiated at *Calder Hall* in the UNITED KINGDOM (UK) on October 17, 1956, for the *purpose* of producing weapons-grade plutonium. Electricity generation was merely a by-product and the UK's first nuclear reactor was not decommissioned until 2003. *Big Brother FRANCE* is the Nuclear Guy today, with 58 reactors.

(Sources: GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS 2013, *Green Earth* contents, under "Nuclear Energy" and "Pollution" headings)

Nuclear Zero Lawsuits

The Republic of the Marshall Islands has filed a landmark lawsuit with the International Court of Justice against all nine nuclear weapon states. The Islands additionally filed with the U.S. Federal District Court against the United States of America (USA).

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The litigation charges CHINA, FRANCE, RUSSIA, the UNITED KINGDOM (UK), and the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (USA) with violation of their treaty obligations for nuclear disarmament to end the nuclear arms race at an early date, and INDIA, ISRAEL, NORTH KOREA, and PAKISTAN are charged with violation of customary international law.

(Sources: NUCLEAR SAVAGE documentary film, by Adam Jonas Horowitz; www.nuclearsavages.com www.nuclearzero.org; www.facebook.com/wagingpeace ; and www.twitter.com/napf)

Nuclear Catastrophe in Waiting

You might realize the aging *Diablo Canyon* twin nuclear reactors are located half-way between *San Francisco* and *Los Angeles*. They were built nearly three-decades ago. When the *San Francisco Bay Area*'s 1989 earthquake hit millions of *American People* were spared a *San Diablo* nuclear accident in 1989 and again last week.

On August 24, 2014, a magnitude 6.0 *West Napa Fault* earthquake became a state of emergency for *Napa County*, CALIFORNIA. Roads were damaged, unreinforced masonry buildings toppled, water mains ruptured, and gas leaks broke into six fires at 3:20 a.m. scaring the wits out of wine country's lovely city of *Napa*. How would it feel if the Big One struck. Maybe you haven't realized yet that *Diablo Canyon* is a nuclear-catastrophe-in-waiting. You may not know the nuclear grief if a 9.0 struck the *Diablo Canyon* reactors but millions are at risk.

The day after *Napa*'s 6.0 earthquake, *The Associated Press* reported that one of the federal nuclear experts urged the NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC) to close *Diablo Canyon*'s twin reactors. Senior Nuclear Expert, *Michael Peck*, blew the whistle that there are signs that the *Diablo Canyon* twin reactors may be unable to withstand powerful shaking from any one of the several nearby faults. There is a shoreline fault within 650 yards of the *Diablo Canyon* reactors, and a larger crack called the *Hosgri Fault* is within three miles of the reactors. A network of other faults both north and south of the reactors have been mapped by surveys.

According to the *Center for Public Integrity*, four out of the five members of the *Atomic Energy Commission*, who control nuclear policymaking, may have a professional or financial stake in the Nuclear Industry. If you consider their possible conflict of interest, that puts their supposed nuclear "safety" claims in a different light, doesn't it. The NRC will not comment on the former on-site inspector's analysis. But *Mr. Peck's* report has documented that the NRC is *not* applying the safety rules it set out for *Diablo Canyon's* operation.

The *San Onofre* nuclear plant closed in 2013 and it would be the better part of wisdom to decommission *Diablo Canyon* now. An environmental group called *Friends of the Earth* filed a petition with the NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC) charging the *Diablo Canyon* nuclear plant of violating its operating license. Nuclear calamity due to earthquakes endangers millions and there are safety qualms.

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The petition requested federal regulators to idle the *Pacific Gas and Electric Company's* nuclear reactors. ***Keeping aging nuclear reactors that were built on or near major earthquake faults is pressing AMERICA's luck.***

(Sources: August 25, 2014, "Quake Jolts California Wine Region" by Alejandrohazo; August 25, 2014 Mail Tribune, "Strong Quake Causes Injuries, Damage" by Ellen Knickmeyer; August 26, 2014, MAIL TRIBUNE, "Top Expert calls for nuclear plant closure" by Michael R. Blood, the ASSOCIATED PRESS; August 27, 2014, THE OREGONIAN, "Earthquake to rattle alert efforts" by Michael Doyle, MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS)

Hanford is Problematic

Charles K. Johnson was invited as a very special guest speaker by the Ashland branch of the *Women's International League for Peace and Freedom* (WILPF). The women of WILPF are a service club and community organization. *Mr. Johnson* is the Director of the *Joint Task Force on Nuclear Power* with the *Oregon and Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility*.

Mr. Johnson gave an interesting and informative update about the medical attention that the *Hanford* nuclear waste clean-up deserves. The *Geological Survey's* updated mapping of cracks and faults shows *Hanford* could be a nuclear-catastrophe-in-waiting due to earthquake risk. *Mr. Johnson's* contact information is washpsr@gmail.com or call 503.274.2720.

WILPF's many co-sponsors of *Mr. Johnson's* visit to Ashland, OREGON, included the *Peace and Justice* ministry of the *Rogue Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship* that graciously offered its auditorium hall to accommodate the FREE public presentation.

Rokkasho Completion in October 2014

People don't have to learn that in 1970 a study of options for building nuclear arms was conducted at the behest of JAPAN's Defense Minister *Yasuhiro Nakasone*. But a person might find it shocking that the researchers decided it *is* possible to possess small-yield, tactical, purely defensive nuclear weapons without violating the constitution in a legal sense, and that the effort would alienate their neighbors, be costly, and take years. Was that prophetic. *Pay attention* because JAPAN built the world's third largest fleet of nuclear power reactors.

In 1977 JAPAN pressed the *Carter Administration* for permission to start producing plutonium, partly to ensure JAPAN a nuclear weapons option while staying under AMERICA's nuclear umbrella. It appears that *Thomas Schieffer*, U.S. Ambassador to JAPAN, was a former business partner of *President George W. Bush*. The GLOBAL NUCLEAR ENERGY PARTNERSHIP was *Bush's* plan for wider use of plutonium-based nuclear fuel around the globe. *Bush* set his sights on the *Rokkasho* nuclear plant. World citizens might not have noticed that JAPAN's tight alliance of bureaucrats and its utilities remained devoted to *Bush's* outdated nuclear policy.

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The 85-utilities and other companies that own Rokkasho are called the *Japan Nuclear Fuel Ltd.* Construction began in 1993 and the French design was modified. Rokkasho took 21 years to build at a cost of \$22 billion. *Rokkasho Nuclear Fuel Reprocessing Facility* is slated for completion in **October 2014**.

JAPAN's new plutonium-based nuclear fuel reprocessing facility is located off the northeast coast of JAPAN in the *Aomori* region that has a severe type of weather and an unsheltered seaboard. Nature blew her whistle in 2011, when a massive 9.0 magnitude earthquake and tsunami crippled the *Fukushima Daiichi* nuclear plant, causing reactor meltdowns, and use of nuclear power devastated the *Fukushima* plant. Three reactor meltdowns at *Fukushima* led to the closure of all JAPAN'S reactors.

The eyes of the world are on *Shinzo Abe*. Even though JAPAN signed and ratified the *Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty*, advocates nuclear arms control, and all of JAPAN's existing plutonium stockpile is under *International Atomic Energy Agency* safeguards, plutonium reactor fuel plants can be used to make fuel for nuclear weapons.

Rokkasho will be one of the world's largest plutonium productions installations, and it could serve as a big store for would-be nuclear terrorists or Rogue states. It will both consume and *produce* plutonium in an endless "*Breeder*" cycle. If the Japanese People allow the *Rokkasho* plant to be turned on, it poses a major proliferation risk.

(Source: Summer 2014, COURIER Provoking Thought and Encouraging Dialogue on World Affairs, "*Plutonium Fever Blossoms in Japan*", by Douglas Birch, R. Jeffrey Smith, and Jake Adelstein, Toshihiro Okuyama, and Yumi Nakayama; www.stanleyfoundation.org)

Electric Armageddon by author *Peter Vincent Pry*

Peter Vincent Pry claims *Electromagnetic Pulse* (EMP) is the most significant world threat because of civilization's dependency on the electric grid. The book's warrant is an appeal for urgency in building resilience into the national electric grid to defend against an EMP attack from one, or a few, terrorists or rogue nuclear states in possession of illicitly trafficked capabilities. NORTH KOREA successfully orbited a KSM-3 satellite, compatible with the size and weight of a small nuclear warhead with the characteristics for delivery of a surprise nuclear EMP attack in December 2012.

NORTH KOREA or IRAN could conceivably launch a *Ballistic Missile Scud* from a freighter near our shores, or loft a low orbiting space satellite with nuclear weaponry that could generate fireballs and gamma rays. If a single explosion detonated in orbit destroyed much of the electric grid then a national blackout would put millions of civilian at peril of disease and famine within 12-months due to the interruption of banking, communications, food, and water supplies. The *Defense Department* has surge arrestors, faraday cages, and other devices that prevent EMP from damaging electronics, as well as microgrids, for crucial military installations and strategic forces. For \$2 BILLION these could be adapted to protect civilian infrastructure from a nationwide blackout.

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The SHIELD Act means *Secure High-voltage Infrastructure for Electricity from Lethal Damage*. The CIPA Act means *Critical Infrastructure Protection Action* by the *Department of Homeland Security* with federal, state, and local level focus to protect the electric grid from EMO attack. Once passed and signed by *President Obama* he could take immediate action.

(Source: August 13, 2014, THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, “*The Growing Threat From an EMP Attack*” by R. James Woolsey and Peter Vincent Pry;)

The Nuclear Documentaries

A-bomb Documentary Hiroshima A Mother’s Prayer, hpcf@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp

BBC History of World War II HIROSHIMA, www.bbcamerica.com

Chernobyl: Chronicle of Difficult Weeks, www.videoproject.com

Countdown To Zero, www.magpictures.com/countdowntozero, www.takepart.com/zero

Day One, www.acornmedia.com

Enola Gay, www.thehistorychannel.com

Eyewitness THE PACIFIC WAR , WWW.ARTSMAGICdvd.COM

Hiroshima No Pika & Hellfire A Journey from Hiroshima, www.firstrunfeatures.com

HIROSHIMA Why The Bomb Was Dropped, www.mpihomevideo.com

In My Lifetime, www.TheNuclearWorld.org

Lifting The Fog The Bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, www.mpihomevideo.com

Nuclear Deception, www.nuclearpolicy.org

Nuclear Tipping Point, www.nucleartippingpoint.org ; www.nti.org

NUCLEAR SAVAGE The Islands of Secret Project 4.1, www.videoproject.com

The Bam Zone: Permanent Residents, www.videoproject.com

The Fog of War, www.sonypictures.com; www.sonyclassics.com

The Return of Navajo Boy, www.groundswellfilms.org

The River That Harms, www.videoproject.com

Unfinished Business, www.docurama.com

White Light Black Rain, www.HBOdocumentaryfilms.com

Next Up

The *Oregon Right to Know* campaign for **Yes on Measure 92** was happy and appreciative that *Elizabeth Kucinith* visited OREGON. She produced the documentary film *GMO: OMG* and graciously joined a panel of speakers to answer questions after the film showed at the Belleville Grange in *Ashland*, OREGON. The exciting news is that her next documentary film is on the nuclear subject. Thumbs up!

Please join the *Kuciniths* and others for the **GMO film festival** in *Portland*, OREGON, on September 9 and 10, and/or the international *Justice Begins With Seeds* conference in Portland, on September 12 and 13. *But hurry!* Register *now* because these *Portland*, OREGON events are coming up ultra fast! See www.biosafetyalliance.org. For more information contact Miquel@biosafetyalliance.org.

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